

REMARKS

This paper is in response to the Restriction/Election mailed August 9, 2007 in the above-identified application. Applicant respectfully submits that all of the issues raised in the Election have been addressed. Applicant submits that the claims are in proper form for substantive examination. The Examiner required restriction between the following groups:

Group I – claims 1, 2-5, 9-12, 25, and 26-27 relating to an apparatus for dispensing golf balls having a special technical feature of cylindrical ball singulating channel depending from a bulk storage area;

Group II – claims 1, 7, 8, 15, 16, 28, and 29 relating to an apparatus for dispensing golf balls having a special technical feature of a ball breaking device located in the dispensing path; and

Group III – claims 1, 13, 14, 18, 19, 20, 23, 21, 22, and 24 relating to an apparatus for dispensing golf balls having a special technical feature of a pivotal arm lock.

The Examiner has required Applicant to elect a single group for prosecution on the merits. Application elects without traverse Group II, including claims 1, 7, 8, 15, 16, 28, and 29.

In addition, Applicant has amended Claim 1 to more clearly describe the present invention. Applicant submits that the invention as recited in claim 1 is patentably distinct over the references identified by the Examiner. Ose (US 4,253,668) discloses a Tee-apparatus comprising two main components: a ball pickup cylinder and a ball receiving base.

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These two components are connected with each other. The ball pickup cylinder is laid on the ground with enough slope to allow balls to roll into the receiving base. Hoffmeister (US 4,676, 397) relates to a golf ball dispenser comprising cylindrical tubes to store balls 3, tube supports 11, and a base tube 20. A foot release 22 is provided to allow a ball to drop into the lower portion of the base tube 20.

Neither of these references discloses or suggests a dispenser arm pivoting around a horizontal axis when a golf ball is being dispensed as defined in Claim 1.

Applicant submits that in view of the above-identified amendments and remarks, the claims in their present form are in proper form for examination. In the event the Examiner determines that there are outstanding issues which may be resolved by telephone, he is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned Attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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